

REMARKS

Summary

Claims 1-4, 6-9, 20-28, and 30-31 are pending. Claim 29 is cancelled, claim 1 is amended, and claims 30-31 are added herein. No new matter is added.

Examiner Interview Summary

There was a potential discrepancy caused in the March 7, 2007, Office Action regarding whether the Office Action was final or non-final. In a telephone conference with Applicants' representative, and confirmed by the April 3, 2007, Examiner Interview Summary, the March 7, 2007, Office Action is non-final.

112 Rejection of Claims 1-4, 6-9, and 20-29

Claims 1-4, 6-9, and 20-29 are rejected over 35 USC 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. To address the rejection, claim 1 has been amended herein. Support for such amendments may be found in the specification at page 1, lines 16-23, original claim 1, and Figures 1 and 2. New claim 30 is similarly supported.

In particular, as indicated in the application, an active sensing region is provided by the presence of both the electrochemically active surface and the surrounding membrane. Thus, a portion of the electrochemically active surface defines a sensing region to which the membrane adheres and surrounds. The amendments are thus fully supported by the written description and the claims are fully enabled thereby.

Support for new claim 31 may be found in the specification at page 2, lines 23-30 and Figures 1 and 2.

Thus, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-4, 6-9, 20-28, and 30-31 are in condition for allowance, and early issuance of the Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner has any questions, he is invited to contact the undersigned at (503) 796-2844. Please charge any shortages and credit any overages to Deposit Account No. 500393.

Respectfully submitted,
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